

**MATERIAL WEAKNESSES IDENTIFIED
BY THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
December 2000**

Bureau	Material Weakness	Status/Corrective Actions	Target Correction Date	Contact
Office of the Special Trustee	<u>Inadequate Management of Trust Funds</u> The management of Indian Trust Funds needs to be improved. The trust funds lack effective internal controls, dependable accounting systems, and reliable accounting information.	The Trust Fund Accounting System and the Trust Asset and Accounting Management System will be extended to all locations. Departmental trust policies and procedures will be developed, internal controls enhanced, and training provided.	FY 2004	Tommy Thompson
Bureau of Indian Affairs and Office of the Special Trustee	<u>Inadequate Records Management</u> The records management system has made it difficult to properly administer the records management function.	A joint plan will be developed under the High Level Implementation Plan (being revised) for the Trust Management Improvement Project. Initiatives will include cleaning up disposition backlog, developing policies, records manuals and training aids, providing technical assistance, implementing electronic records and imaging technology, developing record control schedules, conducting program evaluations, and publishing an Indian Trust Desk Guide with history, processes, and record-keeping requirements.	FY 2002	Tommy Thompson Jerry Fiely
Bureau of Land Management	<u>Inadequate Range Monitoring</u> Inadequate range monitoring and unreliable monitoring data has delayed grazing decisions involving Federal lands.	Rangeland health standards assessments and allotment evaluations will be conducted to determine the need for management adjustments in livestock grazing use.	FY 2002	Kamilah Rasheed
Bureau of Reclamation	<u>Irrigation of Ineligible Land</u> Adequate attention was not given to identifying and resolving instances of Federal water being delivered to ineligible lands on 24 projects in eight States. As a result, the Federal government has provided unintended benefits to water users who did not pay the full cost of supplying the water used to irrigate ineligible lands.	Develop an alternative plan to resolve the issue of ineligible lands that receive Federal irrigation water.	FY 2001	Luis Maez
Departmentwide	<u>Lack of Accountability and Control Over Artwork and Artifacts</u> The accountability and control over artwork and artifacts needs to improved.	Implement bureau plans for eliminating the backlog in inventorying museum property.	FY 2001	Ron Wilson
National Park Service	<u>Inadequate Structural Fire Program</u> The current Structural Fire Program does not provide adequate protection of people, contents, structures, and resources from the effects of fire as required by Director's Order – 58.	NPS will develop and implement a comprehensive structural fire program plan as directed by Congress. The plan will include specific milestones to address the operational, technical, and staffing deficiencies cited in May 2000 GAO audit report, and July 2000 Congressional hearing on Fire Safety Failures of the Park Service.	TBD	Frank Seng
Departmentwide	<u>Inadequate Computer Security</u> The increasing growth in electronic commerce, the heightened reliance on information systems to	The OIG has audited two bureaus and reported a series of comprehensive recommendations to address	TBD	Daryl White

	accomplish basic missions, and the growing vulnerabilities of information systems to unauthorized access has resulted in the need for a comprehensive Department program to improve computer security.	and improve system security and general control over automated information systems. The Dept will conduct a comprehensive computer security assessments consistent with the scope of these OIG audits to determine the security and control issues in other bureaus and offices. Based on its findings, the Department will develop and implement a comprehensive information security plan, including capital budgeting requirements, and implement it on a phased basis.		
Departmentwide	<u>Inadequate Wireless Telecommunications</u> Effective radio communications is critical to employee and public safety, and the efficient management of the parks and public lands. The current wireless telecommunications program is some bureaus does not effectively support bureau and public safety operations, does not comply with DOI management directives and is not funded to achieve timely compliance.	The Department will develop and implement a plan to meet employee and public safety objectives, and restore the program to the efficiency by reviewing bureau narrowband capital investment an implementation plans; revise plans to maximize radio system sharing, minimize supporting infrastructure requirements and ensure maximum use of alternative wireless services.	TBD	Daryl White
Departmentwide	<u>Inadequate Departmentwide Maintenance Management Capability</u> Interior lacks consistent, reliable, and complete information to plan for, budget, and account for resources dedicated to maintenance activities.	Identify and implement a comprehensive maintenance management system with an appropriate linkage to the accounting system; conduct comprehensive conditions assessments; make determinations to repair, replace or relocate facilities; develop a Five-Year Deferred Maintenance Plan and Capital improvement Plan.; repair, replace and relocate facilities to "good condition", and reduce deferred maintenance to established goals (5% or less of replacement cost)	FY 2007	Mike Kaas
Bureau of Indian Affairs	<u>Irrigation Operations and Management</u> The establishment of irrigation assessment rates, collection, recording, investment, and utilization of irrigation receipts are inadequate. Operation and maintenance (O&M) receivable balances have not been kept current, and billing and debt collection processes have not been consistently followed.	Publish 25 CFR 171 A and B as a Final Rule. Reconcile past O&M receivables and bring all accounts to current status. Develop Operations Handbook regarding project operation and keeping O&M assessments and collection processes current.	FY 2002	Jerry Filey
Bureau of Indian Affairs	<u>Deficiencies in Real Property Management</u> There are deficiencies in real property management and accounting. Differences between balances reported in the general ledger and balances in the subsidiary ledger for real property are unreconciled. The Bureau has not completed real property inventories or adjusted the subsidiary ledger. There are no written policies and procedures to ensure accuracy of real property accounts.	Inventories have been taken and accounting adjusting entries made. The BIA will verify data, maintain records, and enhance documentation. Develop new procedures on construction-in-progress data. Finalize computer screens and software implementation, revise procedural handbooks, and develop additional procedures needed.	FY 2002	Jerry Filey
Bureau of Indian Affairs	<u>Inadequate Acquisition Management Program</u> The Bureau's Acquisition Management organization, policies, procedures and guidelines are inadequate.	The BIA is working in conjunction with the Department to revise a corrective action plan that will establish a proper organization, and improved policies, procedures and guidelines. BIA will establish performance appraisal standards for contracting personnel, and an Acquisition Review Board, perform administrative management reviews and follow-up QICR, and publish regulations on the Buy Indian Act.	FY 2002	Jerry Filey
Bureau of Indian Affairs	<u>Inadequate Facilities Program</u> The lack of proper maintenance and	Complete backlog validation and condition	FY 2002	Jerry Filey

	repair of facilities has created health and safety hazards in BIA schools, employee housing, and other facilities.	assessment project. Set guidelines and standards for operation and maintenance of employee housing program. Complete inventory and assessment of conditions of BIA owned employee quarters. Complete testing and implement facilities management computer system.		
Bureau of Land Management	<u>Management and Oversight of the Land Exchange Program</u> Policy guidance and procedures, and personnel training, do not ensure that appropriate appraisals are being developed and used in land exchange determinations.	BLM's Land Exchange Handbook is being revised to incorporate the new policies and procedures identified in the Appraisal Manual for land exchanges and the land exchange training modules.	FY 2001	Kamilah Rasheed
Bureau of Land Management	<u>Insufficient Safety Management Program</u> Supervisory oversight of the Safety Management Program needs to be improved.	Schedule and provide all required safety training for state safety managers and collateral duty safety officers. Allocate appropriate funding in the budget to effectively manage the Safety Management Program.	FY 2003	Kamilah Rasheed
Bureau of Indian Affairs	<u>Inadequate Debt Collection</u> Bureau regulations, procedures, and guidelines are inadequate and obsolete to properly administer current debt collection functions.	Set time frame to run periodic delinquent debt referral to Treasury with automated interface program. Convert irrigation projects to National Irrigation Information Management System with Federal Financial System interface. Routinely reconcile Irrigation and Power subsidiary ledgers and general ledger. Complete construction debt reconciliation.	FY 2001	Jerry Fiely
Minerals Management Service	<u>Inadequate Internal Controls Over Accounting Operations</u> Ineffective controls have prevented the timely reconciliation of general ledger accounts and production of timely, accurate and reliable financial data required for annual audited financial statement preparation (exclusive of the Royalty Management Program).	MMS will reassign and segregate duties and responsibilities within the Financial Management Branch, implement a plan to ensure specific individuals and officials are held accountable for non-compliance with established internal controls, establish a special project team in conjunction with the Department and the OIG to complete year-end account reconciliations, develop and enter correcting adjusting journal entries and produce reliable and accurate financial statements in accordance with governmentwide standards.	FY 2001	Bettine Montgomery
Fish and Wildlife Service	<u>Inadequate Management Controls and Audit Follow-up in the Federal Aid Program</u> The absence of effective management controls, a centralized audit follow-up program, and guidance governing the administration of the Federal Aid Program has resulted in the ineffective management oversight and accountability for Federal Aid grant funds on a Servicewide basis.	Federal Aid process improvement teams will review reported program deficiencies in the Federal Aid Information Management System, Financial Reconciliation, Safety Margin, Grant Operations, Audit Review and Resolution, and Organization Function and Staffing Review. FWS management will evaluate the findings and recommendations of the process improvement teams and develop and implement comprehensive guidelines and organizational changes to govern the administration of the Federal Aid Program	FY 2003	Nancy Cipriano
Bureau of Reclamation	<u>Inadequate Land Inventory and Financial Reconciliation</u> The Bureau does not have a complete and accurate inventory system to support \$1.7 billion in land and land rights.	BOR will (1) conduct reconciliation and research to validate the accuracy of its land records; (2) populate its new real property system (Foundation Information for Real Property Management or FIRM) with such data; (3) develop and issue policy and procedures to ensure future quality, accuracy, and completeness of	FY 2005	Luis Maez

		data captured in the lands and finance systems; (4) conduct an initial and periodic reconciliation's between the detailed land data maintained in FIRM and the financial accounting system to ensure the quality of information contained in both systems.		
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TBD = Date to be determined by January 21, 2001